Acknowledgment of Reply Brief

The reply brief filed 2/26/2009 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Supplemental Examiner's Answer

Responsive to the Reply Brief on 2/26/2009, a supplemental Examiner's Answer is set forth below:

As stated in the Examiner's Answer on 12/26/2008, Applicant has claimed a method that does not use the signal from a camshaft sensor.

Morikawa implements the method with the signal from the camshaft sensor and as clearly stated on Col. 37, Lines 29-36.

"**When no cylinder determining pulse is inputted between the last** and current inputs of crank pulses and between the crank pulse input before last and the last crank pulse input, **it can be determined that the currently inputted crank pulse is the crank pulse .theta.3** and the next inputted crank pulse is the crank pulse .theta.1 ."

Thus, Morikawa implements the method without the **camshaft information**, since 'input' is defined as "the current or voltage applied to an electric or electronic circuit or device" or "data to be entered into a computer for processing."

Clearly consistent with Applicant's specification, it states on page 5 that "The present invention proposes a method of starting the engine **without** the **"information" provided by the cam sensor**."

Applicant simply elides over Applicant's own specification and what is reasonably

taught by Morikawa.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Keith.Coleman /
Examiner, Art Unit 3747

/Stephen K. Cronin/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3747